



It is a great pity that holiday times are so often used to be in the good old English days, when Christmas began in November and continued far into the New Year.

The world would be a better, happier world if men and women ceased striving and working for a while and indulged in a playtime, and in learning to know and to like each other better.

The culmination of the Feast of the Nativity, as observed by the primitive Church, comes to-day, on January sixth, formerly known as Twelfth Day. The quaint old customs of the Twelfth Night festival still survive in the bringing in of the Twelfth Night cake, crowned with holly and holding hidden in its recesses a ring, a thimble, a piece of money, and two beans—one red and one white. When the cake is cut, much merriment is excited over the findings.

The one to whom the ring falls is to be married within a year. The thimble presages spinsterhood, the money wealth. The young man and the girl from whose slices the beans are picked out, become as possible, will be crowned the festival, and have the right to arrange its program. One always looks to the ending of a twelvemonth as January 1st approaches. When it is past, there is the feeling that a new year has begun, and, instead of an ending, the vision is turned toward the beginning.

February 13th will be Ash Wednesday. People who like to keep the most sentimental day of the year, the anniversary of Saint Valentine, on February 14th, will be somewhat disappointed in the matter of valentine parties with decorations in February colors of pink and green. By way of compensation, as much gaiety as possible will be crowded into the weeks intervening between now and the beginning of Lent.

January has come in with sunshine and soft airs, and if its mildness continues to hold good, midwinter will be reached without a snowfall, and the cold season will be short of at least half of its disagreeableness.

Following up a brilliant beginning, life at the Executive Mansion will be bright and cheerful during the remainder of the season, which the well-known reputation Mrs. Swanson has won as a graceful and gracious hostess, renders most attractive in prospect.

Miss Julia Jones and Miss Marcy, of Rivermont, N. J., are to be complimented by Mrs. Henry Taylor, of No. 84 West Grace Street, who is to be their hostess to-morrow evening, when a number of guests will be invited to meet Miss Marcy.

The Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities began the early days of January, 1907, according to their custom, with their annual tea, given from 5 to 7 P. M. on Friday, in the parlors of the Virginia Historical Society. In view of all that 1907 means to the association, this first entertainment given by it took on more than usual interest. The rooms were very bright and pretty, with red and white roses, and the ladies receiving themselves most delightfully as hostesses. All of the patriotic organizations, indeed, are beginning to get their programs for the year.

The New Year reception at the Executive Mansion was a beautiful function, and restored the old-time custom that always rendered January 1st a notable day of the year in the Mansion's history. Other receptions of the day were very brilliant, and were largely attended. The New Year's Eve dance of the Monday German is still being talked about as one of the greatest successes that the most fashionable organization in Richmond has achieved.

The Tuesday German is to give its New Year dance Tuesday evening in Masonic Temple, and as the debutantes and pretty young society matrons are sure to be there, the pleasures of the evening are looked forward to with great interest by the who are to participate.

January 13th, the date set for the midwinter dance of the University of Virginia German. This is social affair in which Richmond girls and buds are especially interested, it being probable that quite a large party will go to the university to attend it.

There will be the usual number of midwinter brides and fashionable weddings intermingled with the receptions, luncheons, dinners and teas already scheduled to render the season gay.

Misses Taylor Entertained. Misses Irene and Jennie Taylor, of Baltimore, have been spending the holiday season with Miss Nettie Carter, in South Lane street, and have been delightfully entertained during their stay in this city. Among other pleasures and events was a box party given by Miss Margaret Giehrst in their honor on Tuesday evening last, to see "When Knighthood Was in Flower," at the Bijou.

Every Monday Club Program. The Every Monday Club of Richmond has just completed a very delightful course of study in Tennessee, "Myths of the King," and Browning's "Ring and the Book."

The members are about to begin now "Some Studies in Colonial History," and will continue these until the close of the club term. The program is as follows: January 24th—Virginia, the Cradle of the Republic; the settlements of Sir Walter Raleigh and of Captain John Smith.

February 4th—Current History; Book Reviews.

February 11th—The Early Government of Virginia; the London Council; the First Assembly; the House of Burgesses; the Development of Democracy.

February 18th—The Social and Religious

Development of the Colony; Slavery and Migration of the Women; the Established Church; the Huguenots; the Scotch-Irish.

February 25th—Governor Spotswood and His Times; the Knights of the Golden Horseshoe.

March 4th—Current History; Book Reviews.

March 11th—The Beginnings of New England; Character Sketches of Prominent Puritans.

March 18th—Dutch and Quaker Settlements; Sketches of Stuyvesant and William Penn.

April 1st—Current History; Book Reviews.

April 8th—The Schools and Churches of Colonial Days.

April 15th—Colonial Art and Literature.

April 22nd—Colonial Homes and Families.

April 29th—The Dawn of the Revolution; the Leading Statesmen of this Period and Their Theories of Government.

May 6th—Current History; Election of Officers.

May 13th—Final Meeting.

New Year's Hop.

Miss Martha W. Gardner was the

hostess of a delightful New Year's hop,

given in her home in Lee District last

Wednesday evening from 8 until 1 o'clock.

Singing, dancing and games were in-

cluded in until a late hour, when the

guests retired to the dining-room, where

supper was served. The dining-room, re-

ception hall and parlors were tastefully

decorated with evergreens and candelabrae.

Those who participated in the enjoyment

of the evening were Misses Virginia

Nowell, Etta Harris, Cleve Shims,

Elizabeth Zacharias, Agnes Galt, Mary

Puckett, Ruby Priddy, Minnie Wells,

Linda Ralston, Lula Angle, Maude Gar-

ner and Martha Gardner. Messrs. Henry

Parsons, Amel Parsons, Leslie Shims,

Leslie Oakley, Charles Nowell, Paul

Nowell, Richard Allen, Richard Schultz,

Leslie Moody, Ira Priddy, Samuel Har-

risson, Frank Meitz, Felix Martin, Messrs.

Garrett and Jenkins. Chaperons were

Mrs. Gardner and Mrs. Garrett.

At Woman's Club.

On Monday afternoon at the Woman's

Club, Miss Emma Morehead Whitfield,

chairman of the art committee, whose

simple, easy style has made her a favor-

ite speaker at the club, will give a paper

on "Heraldry: Some Uses and Abuses

of Coat Armor."

On Wednesday afternoon the Literary

Round Table will discuss Mrs. Myrtle

Lockett Axtell's last book, "Dixie After

the War," under the direction of Miss

Graham.

A great treat is promised club mem-

bers and their friends on the evening of

the 17th inst., when the distinguished

author and lecturer, W. T. Crockett, of

Twinedmill, Scotland, will give his beau-

tiful illustrated lecture on "Scott and the

Scottland."

In this lecture Mr. Crockett shows 120

slides of the Scott country, all from the

most recent photographs; also portraits

of Scott and of his ancestors, and of

many other persons with whom Walter

Scott was intimately connected.

King William Watch Party.

A merry crowd of young people gather-

ing in the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. A.

Robins, of Winchester, King William

county, on Monday night last to dance

the old year out and the new year in.

An elaborate supper was served at 12

o'clock.

Among those present were Misses Min-

nie Johnson, Mary Robinson, Nannie

Gregory, Gertrude Waring, Mattie Hill,

Irene King, Worley Montague, Ida Mon-

tague, Bettie Robins, Marie Robinson,

Sophia Robinson, Virginia Arnold, Miss

Richardson, Misses Carrie Littlepage,

Nellie Thompson, Bessie Nunn, Pett

Nunn, Emma Robinson, Murray Garrett,

Carrie and Bettie Downer, Edna Arnold,

Helen Robins, Hilda Yancy, Mary

Vaughan, Annie Powell, Estelle and Inez

Booker of Richmond, Messrs. Roy and

Clinton Robins, Carroll Green, R. Greg-

ory, Mason White, Byrd Pollard, Vernon

Arnold, L. Edwards, Caleb Gregory,

Gregory Gregory, Ben Walker, Clyde Gar-

rett, Lewis Montague, Harry Robins,

Ernest Edwards, J. H. Johnson, Hannon

Gregory, Larkin Garrett, John Winston,

Latane Gregory, Milner Waring, Matt

Puller, Walter Johnson, Malcolm Clarke,

Frank Thompson, Arsell Robins, Lemuel

Thompson, Carroll Neale, Saml. Men-

delson, P. Waring, Richard Robinson,

Clyde Yancy, George Hill, John Robins,

Robert Hill, Thomas Robins, Stacy Gar-

rett, Preston Powell, Leslie Powell, Leon

King, Henry King and Frederick John-

son, of Richmond; Mr. and Mrs. Yancy.

Mrs. Hill and Mrs. Roger Gregory.

Matinee Card Club.

Mrs. William Gordon Elam, of Suffolk,

entertained the Matinee Card Club

Thursday afternoon, January 24, Mrs.

Charles M. Roswell, of this city, who

has been visiting Mrs. Elam during the

holidays, being one of the special guests

of the club.

The tables were decorated with palms

and cut-flowers; six-hand euchre was

played; and refreshments were served

after the game. The club prize was

won by Mrs. Charles F. Taylor; the

guests' prize, by Mrs. Harry Trotman,

of Chatham, Va., and the consolation

prize, by Mrs. J. H. Johnson.

The following were present: Mesdames

John A. Galt, E. M. C. Quimby, George

L. Barton, Galt Miller, T. O. Palmer,

H. West, Lloyd Bell, W. E. Hines, J.

C. Smith, Joseph E. B. Holladay, Harry

Trotman, A. H. Baker, N. R. Withers,

W. H. Burden, R. J. Nordet, W. H.

Jones, Jr., J. T. Withers, R. S. Boykin,

J. C. Causey, Jr., L. P. Hill, R. Ed-

ward Nordet, George L. Burm, Charles

Elne Taylor, S. E. Everett, J. C. Holla-

day, Charles McKim Roswell, H. E. Elam,

J. C. West, Misses Kate Brothers, Louise

Twitty, George Burm, Lizzie Brothers,

Rosa Bruce, Louise Britt, Marie Wood-

ward, Mary Atkins, Mary Deik, Em Hol-

land, Jennie Ware Pretlow, Lena Parker,

Fluye Parker, Florence Harvey, Carolyn

Flister, Alma Elam.

Returns to Richmond.

Miss Helen Milnes, who has been visit-

ing friends in Roanoke, Va., where she

has been greatly complimented in a social

way by having entertainments galore

given in her honor, returned yesterday to

her home, at No. 320 East Franklin

Street.

Miss Marie Milnes is a sister of Miss

Rosale Milnes, a popular debutante of

the present season.

Baines—Lee.

Announcement has been made of the

approaching wedding of Miss Beatrice

Lee, of Baltimore, Md., to Mr. John T.

Baines, of Hampton, Va., the ceremony

to be performed in the home of the Rev.

Dr. E. Pendleton Jones, at 8 o'clock Tues-

day evening, January 23d.

Homes and Hostesses.

Mrs. Julius Mosby expects to be in

her handsome Monument Avenue home

some time next month. The house is

Colonial in style, and built on a very

spacious plan. Mr. and Mrs. Mosby are

for the present with Mrs. Stephen Put-

ney, of No. 921 West Franklin Street.

The throwing open of a number of the

beautiful new homes on the avenue and

the graceful hospitality dispensed by such

attractive young hostesses as Mrs. E. M.

Hoadley, Mrs. Garrett B. Wall, Mrs. Her-

bert Funsten and many others, will at

once render their residence section one

of the most attractive social centres of

the city.

Mrs. Blair's Dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Beirne Blair enter-

tained at a beautifully-appointed dinner

Friday evening at 8 o'clock, in honor of

Governor and Mrs. C. A. Swanson and

several members of their house-party.

Decorations were in American Beauty

roses. Covers were laid for twelve—Mr.

and Mrs. A. Beirne Blair, Governor and

Mrs. Swanson, Mr. and Mrs. Adolphus

Blair, Mrs. James A. Scott, of Lynch-

burg; Mrs. John Swanson, of Danville;

Colonel and Mrs. Barton H. Grundy, and

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin A. Palmer.

Prospective Entertainments.

Among the entertainments scheduled

for next week is a tea to be given by

Mrs. Henry Randolph Wayt, from 4 to

6 P. M. Tuesday next, in her home, No.

308 South Third Street.

Mrs. James E. Cannon and Mrs. J. J.

Hickey will entertain Thursday after-

noon, from 4 to 6, in the parlors of Woman's

Club, Mrs. Ivan Matley and Mrs. Stuart

Neville Michaux to be their guests of

honor.

Bridal Party Entertained.

Miss Bessie Hunter, whose marriage to

Mr. George Ambrose Allen, of Erie, Pa.,

will be celebrated on Tuesday evening Jan-

uary 15th, in St. Paul's Church, will be

given a card party the Monday afternoon

previous, by Miss Jessie Jones, of No. 325

South Third Street. Miss Hunter's matron

of honor, Mrs. Edward Dillon, of Indian

Rock, Va., and her bridesmaids, Miss

Mary Anderson, of Clifton Forge, Va.;

Miss Jennie Jackson, of Charleston, S. C.;

Miss Irene Trice, of Buckner's, Va.; Miss

Mary Johnston and Miss Nancy Selden,

will, with Miss Hunter, be the guests of

honor, as will Miss Katherine Allen and

Mrs. Warner, of Erie, Pa.

Mr. Allen and his attendants will be

entertained the same afternoon at the

Westmoreland Club.

Progressive Euchre.

Senior and Junior Oakwood Memorial

Associations will entertain Monday even-

ing a giving a most delightful progressive

euchre party in the parlors of the Vir-